

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 04450 031243Z

46

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 SS-15 NSC-05 SAM-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /050 W

----- 014340

R 030900Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3728

S E C R E T CAIRO 4450

NOFORN

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON OVIP AU EG

SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA SALAH GOHAR

REF: VIENNA 3793 (NOTAL)

1. RE SUGGESTION CONTAINED REFTEL THAT WE APPROACH MFA TO HAVE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR GOHAR'S TOUR IN AUSTRIA EXTENDED FOR TWO WEEKS TO ASSIST IN UPCOMING SUMMIT, THIS WOULD BE TOTALLY COUNTERPRODUCTIVE HERE. FROM FONMIN FAHMY ON DOWN, GOHAR IS CONSIDERED USELESS. HE IS ONE OF THE LAST ARMY OFFICERS APPOINTED BY NASSER TO AMBASSADORIAL POSTS. PRESENT MFA STAFF LITERALLY DESPISE HIM AND HAVE FOR WEEKS BEEN TRYING TO GET HIM OUT AS A STEP TOWARD HIS EVENTUAL REMOVAL FROM THE MFA. THE MFA IS PARTICULARLY ANNOYED AT THE MOMENT BECAUSE OF HIS HANDLING OF AN EGYPTIAN EMBASSY RESIDENCE PROBLEM. FOR US EVEN TO SUGGEST HIS STAYING ON WOULD A) BE DEEPLY RESENTED, AND B) VIEWED AS ANOTHER OBLIQUE EFFORT BY GOHAR TO LENGTHEN HIS STAY. THE POINT IS FAHMY AND COMPANY D NOT WANT GOHAR THERE FOR THE SALZBURG SUMMIT.

2. NEW EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR TO AUSTRIA, OMAR SIRRI, IS PRESENTLY CHEF DE CABINET FOR FONMIN FAHMY AND ONE OF THE MINISTER'S CLOSEST CONFIDANTS. HE HOPES TO BE IN VIENNA THE DAY AFTER GOHAR LEAVES. WHILE HE WILL CLEARLY NOT BE AS WELL ACQUAINTED WITH AUSTRIAN

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OFFICIALS AS GOHAR, WE ARE SURE FONMIN FAHMY PREFERS HIM TO

HANDLE THE MATTER, RELYING AS NECESSARY ON EGYPTIAN EMBASSY STAFF.

3. IN SHORT, WE KNOW FAHMY WANTS GOHAR OUT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE
AND SIRRI TO HANDLE UPCOMING SUMMIT.
EILTS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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